Serial No.: TBA (DIV of 10/148,263)

Docket No.: 66455-238-7

## IN THE CLAIMS:

## 1-19 (Cancel)

- 20. (New) A method of testing an airbag module for past exposure to water, said testing comprising the steps of inspecting, by means of Inductively Coupled Plasma techniques, a swab taken from said airbag module and determining from said inspecting step whether the airbag module has been exposed to water in the past.
- 21. (New) A method as claimed in claim 20, comprising inspecting for deposits of a metal.
- 22. (New) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the step of inspecting for deposits of a metal comprises the step of inspecting for cations.
- 23. (New) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the step of inspecting for deposits of a metal quantifies the amount of metal deposited.
- 24. (New) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the step of inspecting for deposits of a metal quantifies the amount of metal deposited for a given surface area of airbag module.
- 25. (New) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the step of inspecting for deposits of a metal comprises the step of taking the swab from a surface of said airbag module by applying a solvent to said surface.
- 26. (New) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the solvent is 5% hydrochloric acid.

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27. (New) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the step of inspecting for deposits of a metal further comprises the step of agitating said swab with 1% lanthanum chloride solution.

- 28. (New) A method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the step of inspecting for deposits of a metal further comprises the step of inspecting the mixture of 1 % lanthanum chloride solution and swab by means of said Inductively Coupled Plasma so as to determine the quantity of a deposited metal present in said mixture.
- 29. (New) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein said swab is taken from the surface of said airbag module which cannot be conveniently wiped clean.
- 30. (New) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said surface is a surface of or adjacent a gas generator of said airbag module.
- 31. (New) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said surface is a surface of a reaction can of said airbag module.
- 32. (New) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the water exposure test comprises the further step of determining a threshold quantity of a deposited metal which, if found on said airbag module, indicates an unacceptable risk of said module having been damaged through water exposure.
- 33. (New) A method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said deposited metal is calcium or sodium.